

Subject: Together Moving Forward

From: "Councilmember Paul Koretz" <Paul.Koretz@lacity.org>

Date: 03/18/2017 08:02 AM

To: "Don Duckworth" <duckworth.donald@gmail.com>



Dear Friends,

The Skechers Performance Los Angeles Marathon is on Sunday! The "Stadium to the Sea" 26.2 mile course takes runners throughout our great City past many iconic landmarks. Various streets along the marathon route will be closed by 3:15 a.m. on March 19, then reopen as early as 10:15 a.m., depending on the location. Streets will reopen by region because of the size and complexity of the event route. Numerous agencies, including the California Department of Transportation and the City of Los Angeles Police and Fire departments were consulted in the planning process and agree that the finalized plan is the best way to accommodate all of the parties involved. Come out to cheer on runners and enjoy the community aspect of this 32 year Los Angeles event!



Regards,
PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

The City Council finalizes the Baseline Mansionization Ordinance

On March 1st, the City Council voted unanimously to adopt an update to the existing Baseline Mansionization Ordinance (BMO) and Baseline Hillside Ordinance (BHO). This vote, in effect, establishes new development



standards for single-family zoned properties citywide. The changes, as recommended by the City Planning Commission, incorporate additional protections to further limit large-scale



homes and related construction impacts. Leading up to Council adoption of the ordinance, the Department of City Planning held public hearings with the community over the course of a six-month period to garner input. Since the adoption of the 2008 BMO and 2011 BHO, the City Council has approved several Interim Control Ordinances (ICOs) to temporarily limit the construction of over-sized homes in certain single-family neighborhoods. With the new amendment in place, the integrity and character of single-family homes citywide will be better preserved.

Some of the adopted changes to the BMO and BHO regulations include the following:

- Establishment of new development standards for single-family zones, including the usage of angled encroachment plane and side wall articulation requirements to reduce the visual impact of building mass;
- Modification to the definition of Residential Floor calculations to further reduce the impact of out-of-scale homes;
- Elimination of nearly all exemptions, which created the big, boxy homes;
- Counting of grading under a house to prevent what was previously an unlimited amount of hillside grading and
- Reduction of Floor Area Ratio for single-family homes in R1 zones.

WORKING FOR YOU

Parks for All Including Our Furry Friends

Work has officially begun on a dog park at the Westwood Recreation Center.



Councilmember Koretz joined the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Westwood Neighborhood Council and community members during the groundbreaking celebration. This project has been years in the making and would not be possible without collaborating with a number of community partners.

Greening Our Streets

Ensuring Council District Five neighborhoods are healthy, clean and safe continues to be one of Councilmember Koretz's most important missions. Recently, he partnered with the Westwood Neighborhood Council and the Los Angeles Conservation Corps to plant nearly 30 trees on Westwood Boulevard. Thanks to the partnership, the trees will be maintained, on a regular basis, for the next three years.

Pushing for More Police Officers Patrolling Our Neighborhoods

Safety in our neighborhoods will continue to be a priority for Councilmember Koretz, that is why he supports a push from his colleagues, Councilmembers Mike Bonin and Joe Buscaino, to get more cops to patrol our streets. On February 21, after the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) detailed how officers are deployed, the Council's Public Safety Committee approved Bonin and Buscaino's "Back to Basic Car" plan for LAPD redeployment. Koretz believes employing civilians to perform duties currently filled by sworn officers will allow for higher visibility in our communities.



Creating Safer Sidewalks for all Users

The Bureau of Street Services recently installed Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) ramps in Encino. Areas include White Oak and Bessemer. Thanks to the Bureau's work, community members are able to safely walk around our neighborhoods.



The Bureau of Street Services Working to Improve our Communities

The Bureau of Street Services (BSS) recently reported on the work they are doing to maintain our quality of life in CD5. Thank you, BSS. From 2013-2016, here's a list of their accomplishments:

Urban Forestry Division:

Trees Trimmed: 8,627

Stumps Removed: 228

Street Cleaning & Maintenance Division:

Small Asphalt Repairs: 329,082

Response to pothole repair requests: 2 business days

Special Projects Division:

Bus Pads Completed: 18

Access Ramps Completed: 140

Street Resurfacing & Reconstruction Division:

Total Lanes Miles Resurfaced: 223.36

Slurry Seal Lane Miles Completed: 377.77

Investigation and Enforcement Division:

Homeless Cleanups: 72

Signs Removed: 7,364

Service Requests Completed: 3,892

OUT IN THE COMMUNITY

Beautifying our Neighborhoods

The Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC) is a critical organization in the City bringing more green space and clean streets while offering job training and work experience for at-risk youth. Koretz proudly supports the program and partners with the LACC to beautify our neighborhoods. In the past year, in Council District Five, Corpsmembers cleaned up 122 streets and alleys; disposed of nearly 53,500 pounds of trash; maintained 60 trees and performed nearly 120,000 square feet of weed abatement. Thanks to the LACC for their dedication to our City.

Jazz in Our Schools



Arts and music education in schools play an integral part of the development of our children. Jazz in Schools was initiated by the Los Angeles Jazz Society in 1988 and provides free jazz education performances by professional musicians in elementary schools during the month of February, *Black History Month*. The purpose of the project is to introduce young students to jazz. It also addresses the need for the arts in Los Angeles public schools. In Los Angeles, schools are selected in equal number from all fifteen council districts. Recently, Council District Five staff were invited to a program at Emelita Elementary School in Encino.

Career Day at Hesby Oaks Elementary School

Chief of Staff Joan Pelico was honored to be a part of Hesby Oaks Elementary School's Career

Day. She enjoyed her time talking to the children about what motivated and lead her to become involved in city politics.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Fighting to #SaveOurSeniors from Eviction

On February 22nd, Councilmember Koretz joined the residents of Westwood Horizons in a march to say #NoToWatermark and to stop the ruthless eviction of our seniors. It is important to hold Watermark responsible and to make sure our seniors keep their homes. [Check out the video.](#)

One of Our Very Own Honored for her Work in the Community



The United Chambers of Commerce San Fernando Valley and Region honored Gurmet Khara during its annual Legislative Aide Recognition Luncheon. Gurmet is Council District Five's Valley Director responsible in assisting residents and community organizations for the areas of Encino, Beverly Crest, and Bel Air. For the past four years, she's played a critical role, ensuring our residents get the services they need and deserve. Chief of Staff Joan Pelico presented her with a certificate from the City.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

City Winter Shelter Program Extended

The City has extended the 2017 winter shelter program an additional month. A total of 13 shelters will continue operating through March 31. In recent weeks, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority has seen an upsurge in the number of people experiencing homelessness who choose to access winter shelters. The occupancy rate is currently around 90%, an increase of some 20% from earlier in the season. The City/County program funds a total of 830 beds. The shelters typically operate between 5 pm and 7 am. During inclement weather, they are open 24 hours. For a list of shelter locations, [click here](#).

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